



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



February 28, 2011

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS
FOR A SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENT WITH NORTHROP GRUMMAN
SYSTEMS CORPORATION FOR A COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH SYSTEM
UPGRADE, SUPPORT, AND RELATED SERVICES**

SUBJECT

This letter provides advance notification to the Board that the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) intends to enter into negotiations without engaging in a competitive solicitation process for a Sole Source Agreement (Agreement) with Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation (Northrop) for the maintenance, enhancements, and related services to the Department's Computer Aided Dispatch System (CAD System) that will include a new Message Switch System (MSS).

This proposed Agreement with Northrop will allow for the purchase of hardware, software, maintenance, and provide long term technical support related to the CAD System migration and port from the Hewlett Packard K-Series Tandem NonStop servers to the Integrity NonStop servers and the Mobile Digital Communications System (MDCS). The Agreement with Northrop will work in conjunction with the proposed Amendment to Agreement Number 71792 with Norman L. Fogel (Contractor Fogel) for the continued data processing consulting services, including the maintenance, enhancements, and related services to the CAD System.

A Tradition of Service

BACKGROUND

The CAD System is part of the MDCS, which is the lifeline for the dispatching and handling of calls for service for the Department, including 911 calls. Emergency and routine calls are handled by the CAD System for all of the unincorporated areas, as well as contract cities on a 24/7 basis. In addition, the CAD System provides billing information for contract cities and organizations, as well as inmate count information regarding pick-up and drop-off for all jail transportation buses.

The current CAD System has been in use since 1989, with significant repairs and enhancements. From 1989 to 1998, these repairs and enhancements were provided by Northrop's (originally PRC, Public Management Services, Incorporated) staff that included Contractor Fogel. Since 1998, these repairs and enhancements have been provided by Contractor Fogel. The Department intends to transition Contractor Fogel's services to Northrop through an Agreement with Northrop and an Amendment to Contractor Fogel's Agreement. This will bind both parties to provide the knowledge transfer needed to ensure the Department's CAD System is maintained properly.

Currently the Department's CAD System has reached both hardware and software end-of-life support and a new system is estimated to cost in excess of \$20 million. Due to the exorbitant cost of a new system, the Department is compelled to defer the purchase of a new system and upgrade our current system. This upgrade to the CAD System would introduce new hardware and software enhancements. The Department's CAD System has original software proprietary to Northrop, which has been custom designed to meet the needs of the Department. This customized software provides the dispatching service needs and supports the business model of the Department, which is unique among public safety agencies.

The Department's required time frame for project completion is critical and cannot be exceeded without extreme hardship. Currently the Department does not have personnel with the required knowledge and training to provide the services required due to the complexity of this project and the numerous interfaces associated with the CAD System.

Additionally, the Department operates the Justice Data Interface Controller (JDIC), whose software is proprietary to Northrop. JDIC is the gateway to State and Federal criminal databases for all of the law enforcement agencies in Los Angeles County (County). The CAD System is interfaced with the JDIC gateway for access of County information systems, as well as the message switcher for the new Mobile Digital Computers (MDCs). Currently, whenever the CAD System needs to come off-line to

add new users or perform maintenance, queries by all law enforcement agencies are negatively impacted. With the upcoming upgrade of the new MDCs, the JDIC System will likely be taken off-line frequently over the next 24 months as the new MDC units are added to the CAD System. The new Northrop MSS Server will allow for both the new MDCs and the CAD System to be taken off-line at the same time for system maintenance without interruption to any JDIC users. This will ensure minimal downtime for the new MDCs and minimal negative impact for the JDIC allied agencies.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The projected cost of the Agreement with Northrop is estimated at \$875,000, and will be funded by the Department's existing general fund operating budget.

SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

The Department's CAD System has original software proprietary to Northrop, which has been custom designed to meet the needs of the Department. Contractor Fogel was part of the original Northrop staff that installed and customized the Department's CAD System in 1989. Therefore, Northrop is the only vendor that can provide the required CAD System's maintenance and enhancement services in conjunction with Contractor Fogel, who has been maintaining and enhancing the CAD System since 1989. It is in the best interest of the County to enter into an Agreement with Northrop and to amend Contractor Fogel's Agreement to ensure a collaborative transfer of knowledge and a smooth transition from Contractor Fogel to Northrop.

An Agreement with Northrop also better aligns the Department with the County's Fire Department's Sole Source Agreement with Northrop for maintenance and enhancements to their CAD System, making it possible to realize potential savings with an enterprise-wide maintenance agreement in the future.

In addition, with the new agreement with Northrop, the Department will be able to realize potential cost savings of having the same vendor provide services and maintenance for both the CAD and JDIC Systems.

Overall, a unique and proprietary solution with Northrop has been determined to be in the best interest of the County. The combination of Northrop's solution and Contractor Fogel's data processing consulting services is the solution that best fits the needs of the County at this time.

The Chief Information Office has reviewed and concurs with this Sole Source approach.

Pursuant to Board policy, the Department will engage in Sole Source negotiations with Northrop in two weeks, unless otherwise instructed by Board. Should additional information be requested, your staff may contact Mona Whittouck, Contract Manager, at (323) 526-5542.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leroy D. Baca". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Leroy" and last name "Baca" clearly distinguishable.

LEROY D. BACA
SHERIFF